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CABLE FACTORY INCREASES FACILITIES

Engineer V. Weckman, executive officer of the Suomen Kaapelitehdas (Finnish Cable Factory) reports that his firm is to begin this year the manufacture of ferroaluminum cable and steel conduit tubes for electrical conductors.

An additional building, with a capacity of 30,000 cubic meters, was erected for the corporation in 1948, increasing the total building capacity available to the firm to 370,000 cubic meters. This represents 77,000 square meters of floor area, of which 48,000 square meters, or 65 percent, is in use by the Suomen Kappelitehdas, the remainder being leased to other factories.

After completion of its quota of reparations goods production on 30 June 1948, the plant has produced only small amounts of electrical conductors for reparations as part of the quotas of other plants. Late in 1948 and during the early part of 1949 the plant produced bare copper cable for shipment to the Soviet Union under trade agreements, and similar consignments may be called for during the latter part of 1949. Of the firm's two-billion-mark business turnover during 1948, about 27 percent was involved in direct reparations production and approximately 1.5 percent in indirect reparations output.

Practically 100 percent of the firm's capacity has been engaged in the production of insulated cable for domestic use since the fulfillment of the reparations quota. Back orders for this item accumulated during the war years have now been largely satisfied. The only difficulty experienced has been the shortage of lead required in the manufacture of lead-covered cable beginning in late 1948, but Weckman is certain that the factory will be able to supply domestic needs of even this item by the autumn of 1949.

Raw materials have been plentiful during 1949, copper and paper being available domestically, while all other raw materials are obtained abroad.

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